

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Forrest Hills Mountain Resort and Conference Center
Dahlonega, GA
October 30, 2014

MINUTES

The GMRC Executive Committee met on Thursday, October 30, 2014, 5:00 p.m. at The Forrest Hills Mountain Resort and Conference Center in Dahlonega, Georgia. The meeting was hosted by Lumpkin County and City of Dahlonega.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sam Norton called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. The following members were present:

Executive Committee Present

Sam Norton, Chairman
Dean Scarborough, Vice Chairman
Mike Berg
Bill Chafin
Jim Conley
Rex Farmer
J.B. Jones

GMRC Staff Present

W. Danny Lewis, Executive Director
Peggy Lovell, Executive Assistant
Kevin Tallant, Attorney

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Chairman Norton asked for consideration of the minutes of the September 25, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting. Motion for approval of the minutes was made by Dean Scarborough, seconded by Bill Chafin, and motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Chairman's Report

Chairman Norton stated that he was proud that other organizations and agencies were using the meeting facilities that Georgia Mountains has available for use. Recently, Georgia Municipal Authority (GMA) held some training meetings in the J.B. Jones room at the GMRC Office.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Danny Lewis informed the Executive Committee that a list of the checks that were written this month in excess of \$25,000 is in the packet. The Procurement Policy states that the Executive Committee be notified at the next meeting that these checks had been written.

OLD BUSINESS

Aerial Photography/LiDAR Flyover Project

Mr. Lewis reported that Faith Bryan has 25 participants that have signed a letter of intent to participate in the Aerial Photography, LiDAR, and Oblique Imagery project. The project goes all the way from Fannin County to Baldwin County and reaches into the boundaries of five regional commissions with a total project area of 6,259 square miles. The total project amount is \$1.6M which includes seven percent in administrative fees that will come back to the RC. This contract has been reviewed by Attorney Kevin Tallant, Danny Lewis, and Chairman Sam Norton. The project will be broken up into different phases as to when the money will be paid to the contractor. Nothing is owed until everything is flown and all photos are taken. They will be flying January 2nd - March 7th and the photography will be available in October. There are six counties that are having the Oblique Imagery done with the understanding that this is a licensed product and cannot be resold. The counties will own the digital and LiDAR projects. Any city or county who would like to participate can be added up until the day they start flying. This is the largest project that the RC has ever done. Mr. Lewis commended Ms. Bryan for her work on this project.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget Amendment

As a recommendation from the RC Auditor, the budget needs to be amended to reflect the Department of Human Services contract for transit services that the RC took on during the middle of the year. When the Budget was approved, the RC did not know that they would have this contract. The State asked the RC to take over and be the pass through for the transit program for all our 13 counties. If the Council does not approve this amendment, then the RC will be issued a finding in this year's Audit.

FY14 GMRC Audit

Mr. Bill Chafin, Audit Committee Chairman, met with the GMRC Auditor Chris Edwards to discuss the outcome of the FY14 Audit. The Audit was previously emailed to Executive Committee for their review. Mr. Edwards stated that the RC had done a great job in handling the 600% revenue growth in the past three years. This growth was due to the RC taking over Workforce Development. The Auditor is giving the RC an unmodified opinion which is the highest he can give and with no findings. He was highly complimentary of the job that the Finance Department had done. The Audit will be presented to the Council for their review and will be voted on at the November 20th Council Meeting.

Purchase of New Fleet Vehicle

At last month's meeting, the Council approved the new Travel Policy which put us in compliance with all the other RCs in the state. According to this Policy, Mr. Lewis will no longer be paid a travel allowance to drive his personal vehicle and a fleet vehicle would be assigned to him to drive. RFPs were sent out and Jacky Jones Ford was lowest bid on a 2015 Ford Explorer with the price of \$24,972. Hope to have the vehicle in by January 1st. This will be recommended to the Council.

Hosting of 2015 Council Meetings

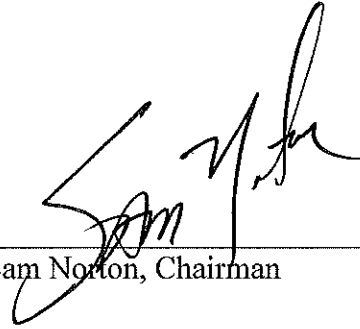
Chairman Norton stated that we need host for the 2015 Council Meeting. He encouraged the Executive Committee to check with their city or county to see if they would be willing to take on one of the dates for next year.

Executive Director's Travel Allowance

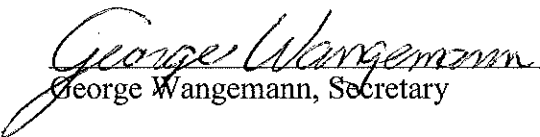
Before the new Travel Policy was adopted, Mr. Lewis was being paid \$800 in travel allowance for the use of his personal vehicle. Mr. Lewis will be issued a fleet vehicle to drive under the new policy. Chairman Norton stated that at next month's meeting he would like for the Executive Committee to make some decision as to how they want to ratify this.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 5:32 pm.



Sam Norton, Chairman



George Wangemann, Secretary